

41



PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 08049.0011

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Oscar Lee AVANT et al.) Group Art Unit: 3653
Application No.: 09/652,707) Examiner: Daniel K. Schlak
Filed: August 31, 2000)
For: APPARATUS AND METHODS) Confirmation No.: 3487
FOR PROCESSING MAILPIECE)
INFORMATION BY AN)
IDENTIFICATION CODE SERVER)

RECEIVED

AUG 30 2004

GROUP 3600

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed documents, including any copending patent applications, are attached.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: August 26, 2004

By: William J. Brogan
William J. Brogan
Reg. No. 43,515

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	08049.0011	Appln. No.	09/652,707
Applicant	Oscar Lee AVANT et al.		
Filing Date	August 31, 2000	Group:	3653

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
O I P E J S	2,709,001	05/1955	Stahl			
AUG 26 2004 U.S. TRADEMARK OFFICE	2,719,629	10/1955	Robinson			
	2,895,588	07/1959	Van Marle			
	3,015,389	01/1962	Levy			
	3,038,607	06/1962	Eckert Jr.			
	3,215,271	11/1965	Cecchini			
	3,266,626	08/1966	Simjian			
	3,384,755	05/1968	Williamson et al.			
	3,533,657	10/1970	Da Silva			
	3,781,800	12/1973	Cramer et al.			RECEIVED
	3,933,094	01/1976	Murphy et al.			AUG 30 2004
	3,953,730	04/1976	Henry et al.			GROUP 3600
	3,981,590	09/1976	Perkins, Joseph R.			
	4,119,194	10/1978	Freeman et al.			
	4,310,754	01/1982	Check, Jr., Frank T.			
	4,516,264	05/1985	Corvari et al.			
	4,520,932	06/1985	Matsuda et al.			
	4,731,741	03/1988	Allen			
	4,741,047	04/1988	Sharpe, II			
	4,783,825	11/1988	Hirose et al.			
	4,838,435	06/1989	Alexandre et al.			
	4,801,789	01/1989	Davis, Paul R.			
	4,886,596	12/1989	Sasage et al.			
	4,992,649	02/1991	Mampe et al.			
	5,025,475	06/1991	Okabe			

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	08049.0011	Appln. No.	09/652,707
Applicant	Oscar Lee AVANT et al.		
Filing Date	August 31, 2000	Group:	3653

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
AUG 26 2004 TRADEMARK OFFICE	5,042,667	08/1991	Keough			
	5,143,225	09/1992	Rabindran et al.			
	5,198,655	03/1993	Suetsugu et al.			
	5,249,687	10/1993	Rosenbaum et al.			
	5,291,002	03/1994	Agnew et al.			
	5,306,901	04/1994	Schechner et al.			
	5,313,070	05/1994	Vala et al.			
	5,329,589	07/1994	Fraser et al.			
	5,518,122	05/1996	Tilles et al.			
	5,538,138	07/1996	Reich			AUG 30 2004
	5,558,232	09/1996	Stevens et al.			RECEIVED
	5,593,044	01/1997	Yamashita et al.			GROUP 3600
	5,633,487	05/1997	Schmutz et al.			
	5,635,694	06/1997	Tuhro			
	5,667,078	09/1997	Walach			
	5,712,787	01/1998	Yeung, Yukiee			
	5,734,568	03/1998	Borgendale et al.			
	5,745,590	04/1998	Pollard, Larry C.			
	5,758,574	06/1998	Bernardo et al.			
	5,794,790	08/1998	Bonnet			
	5,805,710	09/1998	Higgins et al.			
	5,842,577	12/1998	Stevens et al.			
	5,852,813	12/1998	Guenther et al.			
	5,925,864	07/1999	Sansone et al.			

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	08049.0011	Appln. No.	09/652,707
Applicant	Oscar Lee AVANT et al.		
Filing Date	August 31, 2000	Group:	3653

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
O P E S C I	5,957,296	09/1999	Altenburg et al.			
AUG 26 2004 TRADEMARK OFFICE	5,959,288	09/1999	Tajiri et al.			
	5,974,147	10/1999	Cordery et al.			
	5,998,753	12/1999	Darchis et al.			
	6,003,677	12/1999	Foley			
	6,039,257	03/2000	Berson et al.			
	6,075,873	06/2000	Kondou et al.			
	6,156,988	12/2000	Baker			
	6,175,826	01/2001	Malandra, Jr., et al.			
	6,205,373	03/2001	Hart et al.			RECEIVED
	6,224,527	05/2001	Pinchin et al.			AUG 30 2004
	6,236,009	05/2001	Emigh et al.			
	6,239,397	05/2001	Rosenbaum et al.			GROUP 3600
	6,266,575	07/2001	Anderson, Jr. et al.			
	6,291,785	09/2001	Koga et al.			
	6,292,709	09/2001	Uhl et al.			
	6,311,104	10/2001	Shea et al.			
	6,316,741	11/2001	Fitzgibbons et al.			
	6,403,906	06/2002	De Leo et al.			
	6,421,451	07/2002	Shiratsuchi et al.			
	6,456,776	09/2002	Hetzer, Ulrich			
	6,487,302	11/2002	Foley			
	6,496,810	12/2002	Pollard et al.			
	6,610,955	08/2003	Lopez			

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	08049.0011	Appln. No.	09/652,707
Applicant	Oscar Lee AVANT et al.		
Filing Date	August 31, 2000	Group:	3653

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials* <i>O B S</i> <i>AUG 26 2004</i>	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
	6,625,382	09/2003	Hetzer et al.			
	6,674,038	01/2004	Latta			
	6,671,577	12/2003	Barnum et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
	63-101982	05/1988	Japan			
	4-326187	11/1992	Japan			
	529966	03/1993	EPO			

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0069187, Barnum et al., published June 2002.
	U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0122569, Coffelt et al.
	Avant et al., "Apparatus and Methods for Reading an Identification Code from a Mailpiece," Pending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/652,708, filed August 31, 2000.
	Avant et al., "Apparatus and Methods for Identifying and Processing Mail Using an Identification Code," Pending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/652,709, filed August 31, 2000.
	Avant et al., "Apparatus and Methods for Identifying a Mailpiece Using an Identification Code," Pending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/651,323, filed August 31, 2000.
	Brandt et al., "Apparatus and Methods for Processing Mailpiece Information in a Mail Processing Device Using Sorter Application Software," Pending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/652,275, filed August 31, 2000.

Examiner	Date Considered
*Examiner:	Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce

RECEIVED

AUG 30 2004

GROUP 3600